# OSFC Statistical Report

1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016



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## Purpose of Statistical Report and How to Use It

#### Why are the reports produced?

This Report is intended to help Social Fund Managers identify trends and issues in their District. The information in the report can therefore be used to help improve decision making and customer service. The report contains information relating to performance based on data collected by the Office of the Social Fund Commissioner ("OSFC") through our casework.

#### Who produces the reports?

The report is prepared by the OSFC. If you would like to raise an issue, or if you want more information please contact OSFC on 0808 127 0417 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:sfc@osfcni.org.uk">sfc@osfcni.org.uk</a>.

#### How often are reports issued?

A Statistical Report is produced every 3 months. This report covers the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016.

#### How to interpret the information about the quality of decision making

An Inspector's review has one of three outcomes, to:

- o **confirm** the Reviewing Officer's decision. The confirmation rate is the percentage of decisions where the outcome remained the same;
- o **substitute** a new decision with a different outcome; or
- o **refer back** the matter to the Reviewing Officer.

The Inspector also records whether the Reviewing Officer handled the decision correctly in law. This is irrespective of the outcome, so that a:

- o confirmed decision could have been handled wrongly in law
- o correctly made decision could be substituted (e.g. on new information)

The "correct rate" is the percentage of decisions in which all the crucial issues are handled correctly. A low "correct rate" therefore suggests a need for technical training.

It is also important to examine the relationship between "confirmations" and "correct rates". If the confirmation rate is lower than the correct rate this indicates new information frequently came out at the Inspector stage. Could this information have been obtained earlier? Alternatively, if the confirmation rate is higher than the correct rate, training may be required.

## How to focus training in the right areas

This Report provides a further breakdown of the decisions so that it is possible to focus training and development in the right areas.

- Firstly, by showing the reasons for substituting a community care grant or crisis loan.
   It is possible for there to be more than one reason. This includes the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained regardless of whether the decision was correct.
- o Secondly, by detailing why Inspectors concluded Reviewing Officer's decisions were not handled correctly.

The top section of the breakdown of issues table shows the number of decisions where the Inspector concluded that the Reviewing Officer's decision was incorrect (i.e. Direction 1 error). If there was an error, the reason could have been a rationality error, a natural justice error, a law error, or a combination of the above. If the error was a law error, further details are provided. The table therefore shows the frequency of an error, which can be compared to the frequency across the region.

## How to use the tables on time to process

The time to process tables provide information on performance against:

- o Reviewing Officer process time 10 days (CCGs & BLs). This is the time from receipt of the request for review, to the date of the Reviewing Officer's decision; and
- Cases received within 4 days. This is the time from when an applicant asked for an independent review and papers were requested from the SSA, to the day the case papers arrived at the OSFC.

#### **Comments on Statistical Report**

OSFC welcomes comments from District Managers on any aspect of the statistical information provided, including suggestions as to how you feel this Statistical Report may be improved. Your comments should be sent to the office manager at <a href="mailto:sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk">sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk</a>

#### **Falls District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Falls
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	56.0%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	52.0%

The OSFC confirms a below average percentage of decisions from Falls. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 36.0% of community care grant decisions. This is below the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	Falls
Incorrect	68.9%	72.2%

An above average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Falls
New Information	31.1%	27.8%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Falls
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	5.6%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in an above average number of crisis loan cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors		Most common law errors	
	Region		Falls
Issue		Issue	
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	10 (26.3%)
Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Inquisitorial role	4 (80.0%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Natural justice	2 (100%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

#### Time to process

	Region	Falls
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	77.8%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is below the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Falls
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	84.4%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	87.5%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Falls. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 15.6% of crisis loan decisions. This is below the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	Falls
Incorrect	57.6%	80.0%

An above average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Falls
New information	39.4%	20.0%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Falls
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	20.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in an above average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Falls
Issue		Issue	
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Direction 3 - Qualification	2 (6.7%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)	No offer of interview	1 (100%)
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)	Inquisitorial role	1 (100%)

- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence
- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

#### **Lisburn District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Lisburn
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	42.4%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	39.4%

The OSFC confirms a below average percentage of decisions from Lisburn. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is below the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 54.5% of community care grant decisions. This is above the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	Lisburn
Incorrect	68.9%	77.8%

An above average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Lisburn
New Information	31.1%	22.2%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Lisburn
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in a below average number of crisis loan cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Lisburn
Issue	_	Issue	
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	11 (44.0%)
Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Inquisitorial role	9 (100%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Natural justice	2 (100%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

#### Time to process

	Region	Lisburn
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	94.1%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is above the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Lisburn
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	60.7%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	78.6%

The OSFC confirms a below average percentage of decisions from Lisburn. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is below the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 35.7% of crisis loan decisions. This is above the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	Lisburn
Incorrect	57.6%	60.0%

An above average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Lisburn
New information	39.4%	40.0%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Lisburn
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in a below average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Lisburn
Issue		Issue	
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Natural justice	3 (100%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)	Inquisitorial role	2 (100%)
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)	Direction 3 – Qualification	1 (5.3%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

## **Knockbreda & Downpatrick District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	66.7%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	59.3%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Knockbreda & Downpatrick. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 33.3% of community care grant decisions. This is below the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
Incorrect	68.9%	77.8%

An above average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
New Information	31.1%	22.2%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in a below average number of crisis loan cases.

#### Breakdown of issues

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors		Most common law errors	Knockbreda
	Region		&
Issue		Issue	Downpatrick
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Inquisitorial role	7 (100%)

Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	7 (17.1%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Natural justice	4 (100%)

The most common crucial issues are:

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

Time to process

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	82.4%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is below the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	87.2%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	80.9%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Knockbreda & Downpatrick. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is below the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 10.6% of crisis loan decisions. This is below the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
Incorrect	57.6%	60.0%

An above average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
New information	39.4%	20.0%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Knockbreda & Downpatrick
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in a below average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors		Most common law errors	Knockbreda
	Region		&
Issue		Issue	Downpatrick
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Other issues	3 (100%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)	Direction 3 - Qualification	3 (7.9%)
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)	Natural justice	2 (66.7%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

#### **Antrim District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### Quality - confirmation and error rates

	Region	Antrim
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	62.9%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	62.9%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Antrim. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 34.3% of community care grant decisions. This is below the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	Antrim
Incorrect	68.9%	58.3%

A below average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Antrim
New Information	31.1%	41.7%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Antrim
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in a below average number of crisis loan cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Antrim
Issue		Issue	
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Natural justice	3 (75.0%)
Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Priority	3 (42.9%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	3 (11.5%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

#### Time to process

	Region	Antrim
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	90.0%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is above the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Antrim
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	80.0%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	96.0%

The OSFC confirms a below average percentage of decisions from Antrim. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 16.7% of crisis loan decisions. This is below the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	Antrim
Incorrect	57.6%	25.0%

A below average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Antrim
New information	39.4%	75.0%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Antrim
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in a below average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Antrim
Issue		Issue	
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Direction 3 - Qualification	1 (%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)		
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)		

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

## **Armagh District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Armagh
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	58.9%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	64.3%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Armagh. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 37.5% of community care grant decisions. This is above the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	Armagh
Incorrect	68.9%	57.1%

A below average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Armagh
New Information	31.1%	42.9%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Armagh
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in a below average number of crisis loan cases.

## **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Armagh
Issue		Issue	9
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	7 (14.9%)
Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Other issues	4 (100%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Inquisitorial role	3 (100%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.

#### Time to process

	Region	Armagh
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	78.4%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is below the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	Armagh
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	93.1%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	93.1%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from Armagh. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is above the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 6.9% of crisis loan decisions. This is below the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	Armagh
Incorrect	57.6%	0.0%

A below average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	Armagh
New information	39.4%	100%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	Armagh
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in a below average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	Armagh
Issue		Issue	b
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Natural justice	1 (50.0%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)	Direction 3 - Qualification	1 (3.7%)
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)		

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

## **foyle District**

## **Community Care Grants**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	foyle
% decisions confirmed	58.8%	60.7%
% decisions handled correctly	55.3%	50.0%

The OSFC confirms an above average percentage of decisions from foyle. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is below the regional average.

#### Reasons for community care grant substitutions

Inspectors substituted 33.9% of community care grant decisions. This is below the regional average of 37.3%.

	Region	foyle
Incorrect	68.9%	68.4%

A below average percentage of grant decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	foyle
New Information	31.1%	31.6%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	foyle
SFI invoked Direction 49	1.9%	5.3%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a grant in an above average number of crisis loan cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	foyle
Issue		Issue	
Direction 4 - Qualification	47 (21.6%)	Direction 4 - Qualification	9 (22.0%)
Inquisitorial role	33 (91.7%)	Inquisitorial role	8 (100%)
Priority	18 (34.0%)	Priority	6 (66.7%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Priority for example the priority decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence or irrelevant factors were taken into account or relevant factors not addressed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.

#### Time to process

_	Region	foyle
% reviews cleared (10 working days)	86.7%	98.2%

The percentage cleared within 10 working days is above the Regional average.

#### **Crisis Loans**

#### **Quality – confirmation and error rates**

	Region	foyle
% decisions confirmed	80.4%	72.7%
% decisions handled correctly	84.0%	72.7%

The OSFC confirms a below average percentage of decisions from foyle. The percentage of decisions with all issues handled correctly is below the regional average.

#### Reasons for crisis loan substitutions

Inspectors substituted 21.9% of crisis loan decisions. This is above the regional average of 17.2%.

	Region	foyle
Incorrect	57.6%	71.4%

An above average percentage of decisions are substituted due to the Reviewing Officer's decision being incorrectly made.

	Region	foyle
New information	39.4%	28.6%

This is the total percentage of cases where important new information was obtained – regardless of whether the decision was correct.

	Region	foyle
SFI used Direction 49	3.0%	0.0%

The Inspector was the first person to consider a crisis loan in a below average percentage of grant cases.

#### **Breakdown of issues**

The issues with the most common law errors are shown below. In brackets is this number expressed as a percentage of the total number of cases which had this as a key issue:

Most common law errors	Region	Most common law errors	foyle
Issue		Issue	
Direction 3 - Qualification	12 (7.2%)	Direction 3 - Qualification	4 (13.8%)
Natural justice	8 (80.0%)	Natural justice	2 (100%)
Inquisitorial role	5 (100%)	Inquisitorial role	1 (100%)

- Inquisitorial role in other words the Reviewing Officer failed to ask crucial questions where more information was needed.
- Qualification for example the law was misinterpreted, the wrong test was applied, or the decision reached was not a reasonable one on the available evidence.
- Natural justice the applicant has not been given a fair opportunity to state his case or to know the case against him.

# Appendix 1

# **Quality of Decisions**

Total Decisions			ons	CCG Confirmed			CL Confirmed			BL Confirmed		
DISTRICT	Total	Con- firmed	%	Total	Con- firmed	%	Total	Con- firmed	%	Total	Con- firmed	%
Antrim	60	42	70.0%	35	22	62.9%	25	20	80.0%	0	0	0.0%
Armagh	86	61	70.9%	56	33	58.9%	29	27	93.1%	1	1	100.0%
Falls Road	84	57	67.9%	50	28	56.0%	32	27	84.4%	2	2	100.0%
Foyle	90	58	64.4%	56	34	60.7%	33	24	72.7%	1	0	0.0%
Knockbreda & Downpatrick	101	77	76.2%	54	36	66.7%	47	41	87.2%	0	0	0.0%
Lisburn	63	33	52.4%	33	14	42.4%	28	17	60.7%	2	2	100.0%
Total	484	328	67.8%	284	167	58.8%	194	156	80.4%	6	5	83.3%

# **Issues Handled Correctly**

District	To	<b>Total Decisions</b>			CCG Correct			CL Correct			BL Correct		
District	Total	Correct	%	Total	Correct	%	Total	Correct	%	Total	Correct	%	
Antrim	60	47	78.3%	35	22	62.9%	25	24	96.0%	0	0	0.0%	
Armagh	86	65	75.6%	56	36	64.3%	29	27	93.1%	1	1	100.0%	
Falls Road	84	57	67.9%	50	26	52.0%	32	28	87.5%	2	2	100.0%	
Foyle	90	54	60.0%	56	28	50.0%	33	24	72.7%	1	0	0.0%	
Knockbreda &													
Downpatrick	101	70	69.3%	54	32	59.3%	47	38	80.9%	0	0	0.0%	
Lisburn	63	38	60.3%	33	13	39.4%	28	22	78.6%	2	2	100.0%	
Total	484	331	68.4%	284	157	55.3%	194	163	84.0%	6	5	83.3%	

## **CCG Substitutions**

District	Total Substituted			District Total Substituted Substituted Incorrect		(all decise new info	ormation ions with ormation, oth ncorrect)	SFI Invoked Dir 49 (all decisions with new information, both correct/incorrect)		
	Total	Substituted	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Antrim	35	12	34.3%	7	58.3%	5	41.7%	0	0.0%	
Armagh	56	21	37.5%	12	57.1%	9	42.9%	0	0.0%	
Falls Road	50	18	36.0%	13	72.2%	5	27.8%	1	5.6%	
Foyle	56	19	33.9%	13	68.4%	6	31.6%	1	5.3%	
Knockbreda &										
Downpatrick	54	18	33.3%	14	77.8%	4	22.2%	0	0.0%	
Lisburn	<b>33 18</b> 54.5%		54.5%	14	77.8%	4	22.2%	0	0.0%	
Total	284	106	37.3%	73	68.9%	33	31.1%	2	1.9%	

# **CL Substitutions**

District	Total Substituted		Total Substituted Substituted Incorrect		New Inform decisions v informatio correct/in	vith new on, both	SFI Invoked Dir 49 (all decisions with new information, both correct/incorrect)		
	Total	Substituted	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Antrim	24	4	16.7%	1	25.0%	3	75.0%	0	0.0%
Armagh	29	2	6.9%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%
Falls Road	32	5	15.6%	4	80.0%	1	20.0%	1	20.0%
Foyle	32	7	21.9%	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	0	0.0%
Knockbreda &									
Downpatrick	47	5	10.6%	3	60.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%
Lisburn	28	10	35.7%	6	60.0%	4	40.0%	0	0.0%
Total	192	33	17.2%	19	57.6%	13	39.4%	1	3.0%

## **Northern Ireland**

	Total					
Number of decisions	28	284				
Number with issues handled						
incorrectly	115	40.5%	Rig	ht	$\mathbf{W}$	rong
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
No offer of interview	6	1.5%	0	0.0%	6	100.0%
Dir-4 Qualification	218	53.6%	171	78.4%	47	21.6%
Other Issues	10	2.5%	0	0.0%	10	100.0%
Eligibility	6	1.5%	5	83.3%	1	16.7%
Inquisitorial Role	36	8.8%	3	8.3%	33	91.7%
Direction 7	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Exclusions	7	1.7%	1	14.3%	6	85.7%
Priority	53	13.0%	35	66.0%	18	34.0%
Amount of Award	5	1.2%	3	60.0%	2	40.0%
Natural Justice	16	3.9%	1	6.3%	15	93.8%
Direction 49	49	12.0%	46	93.9%	3	6.1%
	407		265	65.1%	142	34.9%

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

**Falls** 

	Total						
Number of decisions	50						
Number with issues							
handled incorrectly	20	40.0%	Ri	ght	W	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	2	3.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	38	56.7%	28	73.7%	10	26.3%	
Other Issues	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Eligibility	2	3.0%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	5	7.5%	1	20.0%	4	80.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	3	4.5%	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	
Priority	6	9.0%	5	83.3%	1	16.7%	
Amount of Award	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Natural Justice	2	3.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Direction 49	7	10.4%	7	100.0%	0	0.0%	
	67		43	64.2%	24	35.8%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Lisburn

	Total						
Number of decisions	3:	3					
Number with issues handled incorrectly	19	57.6%	Right		W	Wrong	
<b>Facts or Evidence</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	1	2.4%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	25	59.5%	14	56.0%	11	44.0%	
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Eligibility	1	2.4%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	9	21.4%	0	0.0%	9	100.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Priority	2	4.8%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	2	4.8%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Direction 49	2	4.8%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	
	42		18	42.9%	24	57.1%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Knockbreda & Downpatrick

	Total						
Number of decisions	5	54					
Number with issues							
handled incorrectly	22	40.7%	Ri	ght	W	Wrong	
<b>Facts or Evidence</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	41	47.7%	34	82.9%	7	17.1%	
Other Issues	3	3.5%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	
Eligibility	3	3.5%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	7	8.1%	0	0.0%	7	100.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Priority	14	16.3%	10	71.4%	4	28.6%	
Amount of Award	1	1.2%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	4	4.7%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%	
Direction 49	12	14.0%	11	91.7%	1	8.3%	
	86		59	68.6%	27	31.4%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

#### Antrim

	Total						
Number of decisions	3	5					
Number with issues handled incorrectly	12	34.3%	Rig	ght	$\mathbf{W}_1$	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	26	47.3%	23	88.5%	3	11.5%	
Other Issues	1	1.8%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Eligibility	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	4	7.3%	2	50.0%	2	50.0%	
Direction 7	1	1.8%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Priority	7	12.7%	4	57.1%	3	42.9%	
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	4	7.3%	1	25.0%	3	75.0%	
Direction 49	12	21.8%	11	91.7%	1	8.3%	
	55		41	74.5%	14	25.5%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Armagh

	Total						
Number of decisions	5	66					
Number with issues							
handled incorrectly	18	32.1%	Ri	ight	$\mathbf{W}$	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	1	1.2%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	47	58.0%	40	85.1%	7	14.9%	
Other Issues	4	4.9%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%	
Eligibility	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	3	3.7%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Priority	15	18.5%	12	80.0%	3	20.0%	
Amount of Award	2	2.5%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	
Natural Justice	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Direction 49	9	11.1%	9	100.0%	0	0.0%	
	81		62	76.5%	19	23.5%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

Foyle

	To	tal					
Number of decisions	5	56					
Number with issues							
handled incorrectly	25	44.6%	Ri	ght	$\mathbf{W}_{1}$	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	2	2.6%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Dir-4 Qualification	41	53.9%	32	78.0%	9	22.0%	
Other Issues	1	1.3%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Eligibility	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	8	10.5%	0	0.0%	8	100.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	3	3.9%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	
Priority	9	11.8%	3	33.3%	6	66.7%	
Amount of Award	1	1.3%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	4	5.3%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%	
Direction 49	7	9.2%	6	85.7%	1	14.3%	
	76		42	55.3%	34	44.7%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## **Northern Ireland**

	Total						
Number of decisions	194						
Number with issues handled incorrectly	31	16.0%	Right		$\mathbf{W}_{1}$	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	1	0.5%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	2	1.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Dir-3 Qualification	167	83.1%	155	92.8%	12	7.2%	
Other Issues	3	1.5%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%	
Eligibility	8	4.0%	8	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	5	2.5%	0	0.0%	5	100.0%	
Direction 7	3	1.5%	1	33.3%	2	66.7%	
Exclusions	2	1.0%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	10	5.0%	2	20.0%	8	80.0%	
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	201		168	83.6%	33	16.4%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

**Falls** 

	Total						
Number of decisions	32						
Number with issues handled							
incorrectly	4	12.5%	Rig	ght	W	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Dir-3 Qualification	30	85.7%	28	93.3%	2	6.7%	
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Eligibility	3	8.6%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	35		31	88.6%	4	11.4%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Lisburn

	Tot	al				
Number of decisions	28					
Number with issues handled						
incorrectly	6	21.4%	Rig	ht	$\mathbf{W}$	rong
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dir-3 Qualification	19	70.4%	18	94.7%	1	5.3%
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Eligibility	2	7.4%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%
Inquisitorial Role	2	7.4%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Exclusions	1	3.7%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Natural Justice	3	11.1%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	27		21	77.8%	6	22.2%

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Knockbreda & Downpatrick

	Tot	Total				
Number of decisions	47	7				
Number with issues handled	9	19.1%	D:al	.4	<b>XX</b> 7,	mom a
incorrectly			Righ			rong
Facts or Evidence	1	2.0%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dir-3 Qualification	38	76.0%	35	92.1%	3	7.9%
Other Issues	3	6.0%	0	0.0%	3	100.0%
Eligibility	2	4.0%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%
Inquisitorial Role	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%
Direction 7	2	4.0%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Natural Justice	3	6.0%	1	33.3%	2	66.7%
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	50		40	80.0%	10	20.0%

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Antrim

	To	tal				
Number of decisions	25					
Number with issues handled incorrectly	1	4.0%	Rig	ht	Wre	ong
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dir-3 Qualification	24	96.0%	23	95.8%	1	4.2%
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Eligibility	1	4.0%	1	100.0%	0	0.0%
Inquisitorial Role	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Natural Justice	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	25		24	96.0%	1	4.0%

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

## Armagh

	Total					
Number of decisions	29					
Number with issues handled						
incorrectly	2	6.9%	Rig	ht	Wrong	
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
No offer of interview	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dir-3 Qualification	27	93.1%	26	96.3%	1	3.7%
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Eligibility	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Inquisitorial Role	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Exclusions	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Amount of Award</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Natural Justice	2	6.9%	1	50.0%	1	50.0%
Jurisdiction	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
	29		27	93.1%	2	6.9%

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

Foyle

	Total						
Number of decisions	33						
Number with issues handled incorrectly	9 27.3%		Right		Wrong		
Facts or Evidence	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	_				_		
Unfairness or bias	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No offer of interview	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Dir-3 Qualification	29	82.9%	25	86.2%	4	13.8%	
Other Issues	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Eligibility	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Inquisitorial Role	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Direction 7	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Exclusions	1	2.9%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	
Priority	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Amount of Award	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Direction 49	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Withdrawn	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Repayability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
TFM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Natural Justice	2	5.7%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Jurisdiction	0 0.0%		0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
	35		25	71.4%	10	28.6%	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total number of issues may be greater than the total number of decisions.

# **Appendix 2 - Time to process**

**CCG & BL - Time to Process** 

		CC	G		BL				Combined CCG & BL							
			Stage t to RO (ew)		2nd Stage (request to RO review)				2nd Stage (request to RO review)		3rd Stage (request to papers rec'd)		Combined Time			
District	Number of Reviews	Within 10 days	%	Avg time taken (days)	Number of Reviews	Within 10 days	%	Avg time taken (days)	Number of Reviews	Within 10 days	%	Within 4 days	%	Within 14 days	%	
Antrim	40	36	90.0%	6.7	0	0	0.0%	0	40	36	90.0%	40	100.0%	38	95.0%	
Armagh	51	40	78.4%	7.2	2	2	100.0%	4.5	53	42	79.2%	52	98.1%	49	92.5%	
Falls Road	45	35	77.8%	7.2	2	2	100.0%	3.5	47	37	78.7%	38	80.9%	40	85.1%	
Foyle	57	56	98.2%	7.4	1	1	100.0%	1	58	57	98.3%	58	100.0%	58	100.0%	
Knockbreda & Downpatrick	51	42	82.4%	7.7	0	0	0.0%	0	51	42	82.4%	51	100.0%	45	88.2%	
Lisburn	34	32	94.1%	5.6	2	2	100.0%	1	36	34	94.4%	35	97.2%	36	100.0%	
Total	278	241	86.7%	6.9	7	7	100.0%	1.7	285	248	87.0%	274	96.1%	266	93.3%	

# **Appendix 3 – OSFC contacts**

Social Fund Commissioner	Mr Walter Rader OBE sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk					
Statistical Reports	Nikki Croft 08081270417 sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk					
Casework (for progress, information before the Inspector's decision)	Nikki Croft 08081270417 <u>sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk</u>					
(for queries, complaints after the Inspector's decision)	08081270417 sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk					
Leaflets and Publications	Nikki Croft 08081270417 sfc@dsdni.gsi.gov.uk					
OSFC website (contains a range of information and support including, quarterly and annual statistics reports, Corporate Plans and Annual Reports)	www.osfcni.org.uk					